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Subject: Chipmunk Solar, Case#: 21-0960-EL-BGN

Recommendation for Dis-approval of Major Solar Plants/Farms in the Westfall Local School District

Greetings OPSB Members,

My name is Zachary Ruoff. I am a publicly elected member of the Westfall Local Schools District Board of Education in Pickaway County, Ohio. I am 1 of 5 members, therefore in regards to Westfall you could say I represent 20% of a total district population of 8,523.

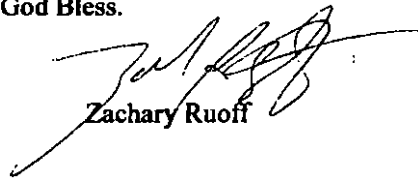
I am requesting that you disapprove any and all Major Solar Plants/Farms in the Westfall Local School District, more specifically Chipmunk Solar, Case#: 21-0960-EL-BGN.

Being a publicly elected member you know as well as any that you take strong consideration of your voter's opinions and stance. Because that is the reason they elected you. You swore an oath to represent their ideals, not yours alone. In my case, I have had, to this date, ZERO voters come forward asking that I support this project. But I couldn't tell you how many have asked me to oppose it.

I have listened, I've studied, and I researched. I've taken second hand information and I've taken firsthand information. This project and any other major solar project within our district just doesn't fit us. It's an attack on our community culture. A culture historically rich and dependent on farming and the rippling economic effects of. Make no mistake I understand the financial benefit to our school and inevitably a reduction of taxes to our community. But the community understands that as well. We have some of the lowest school taxes in the state of Ohio and on top of that we were able to pass a levy for permanent improvement of our schools during a pandemic. You know as well as I what the pandemic has done to household incomes, and yet the voters still came and spoke.

I'm not anti-renewable energy. But I am anti this design of picking convenient spots along a grid for major companies to change the world of a small community simply because it's near a strategic electrical grid vein. This design will just make everyone's life hell. (If you haven't already done so) At each of the locations where operational solar plants exist, I ask that you do your homework and poll the community in that area. Define with clarity how they feel about it and how it has impacted their community. And if you haven't already, do so because that's a major part of your position.

Be strong, stick up for what is right. Listen to your voters. God Bless.

  
Zachary Ruoff

P.S. Feel free to make this publicly viewable.

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